



Summary of EPA Surface Water Sampling Results to Date

Gold King Mine Blowout

Updated August 8, 2015

EPA initiated a sampling effort on August 5, 2015, to assess the impacts of the blowout at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, CO. Surface water quality samples were collected from 9 locations (see Attachment 1). 2 of these locations were on Cement Creek and 7 of these were on the Animas River. These locations were selected based on the fact that an historical dataset already exists at these locations and they will serve thus as good indicators of conditions before, during and after the event.

Attachment 2 provides an analysis of the concentrations of key dissolved metals concentrations over time. Attachment 3 provides an analysis of the concentrations of key dissolved metals concentrations over time.

EPA will continue to collect monitoring data and expects subsequent sampling events to show decreasing concentrations of contaminants as the tailing edge of the plume moves downstream.

INITIAL vs FINAL

EPA receives INITIAL results from its laboratory 1-2 days after the samples are collected. These INITIAL results are designated as FINAL once they have been validated. This validation process usually takes 7-10 days. EPA is releasing INITIAL data to the public but it is important to note that results are sometimes changed during the validation process.

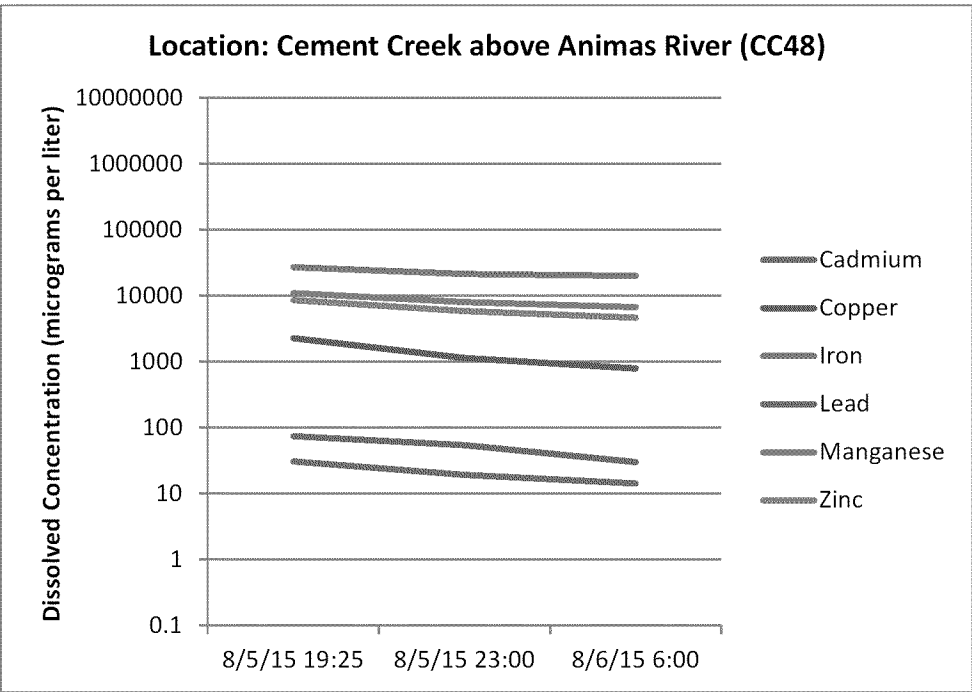
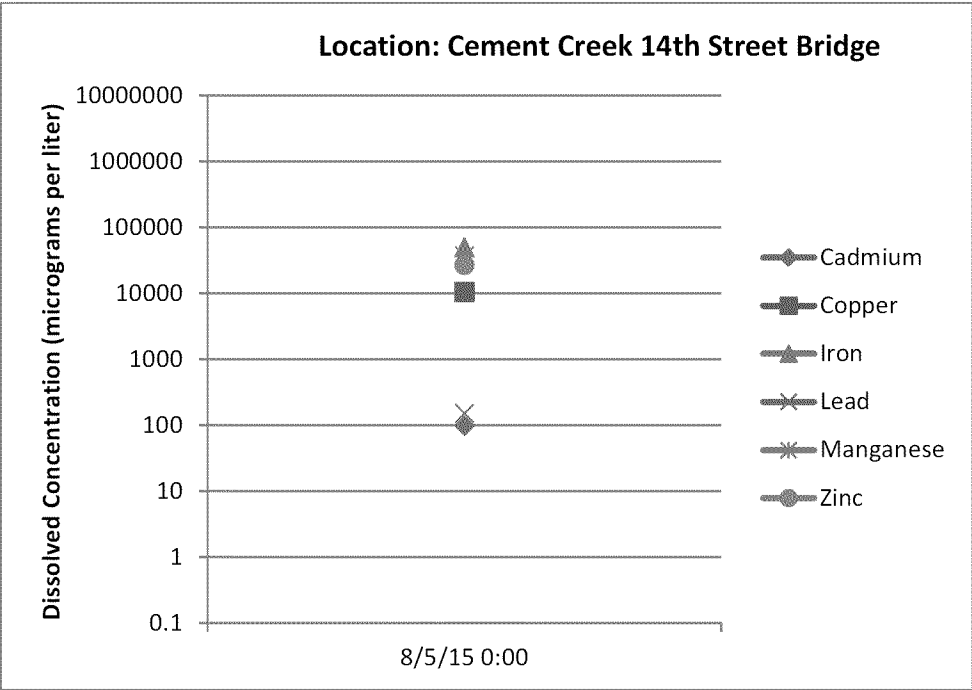
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Sampling Locations
Attachment 2: Dissolved Metals Trends
Attachment 3: Total Metals Trends

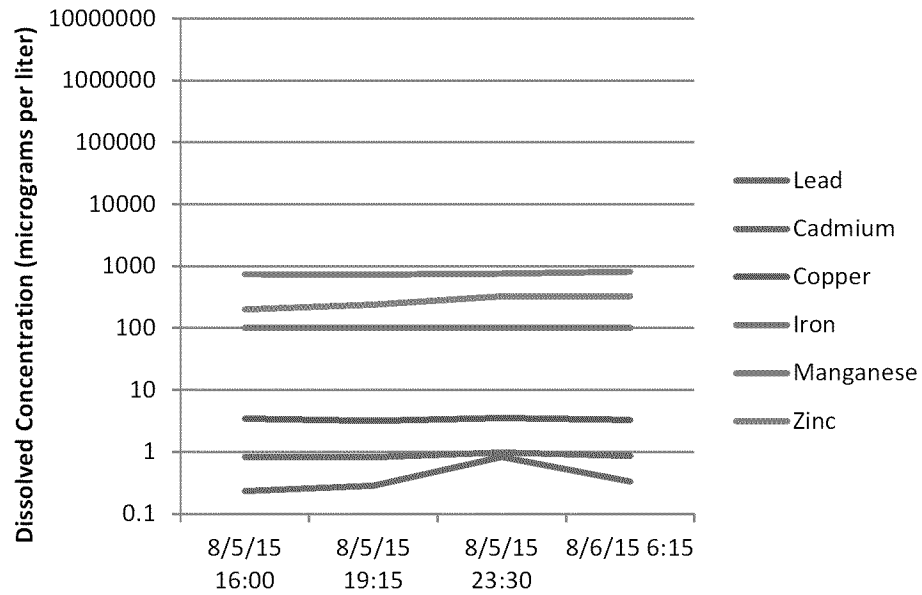
Attachment 1: EPA Sampling Locations



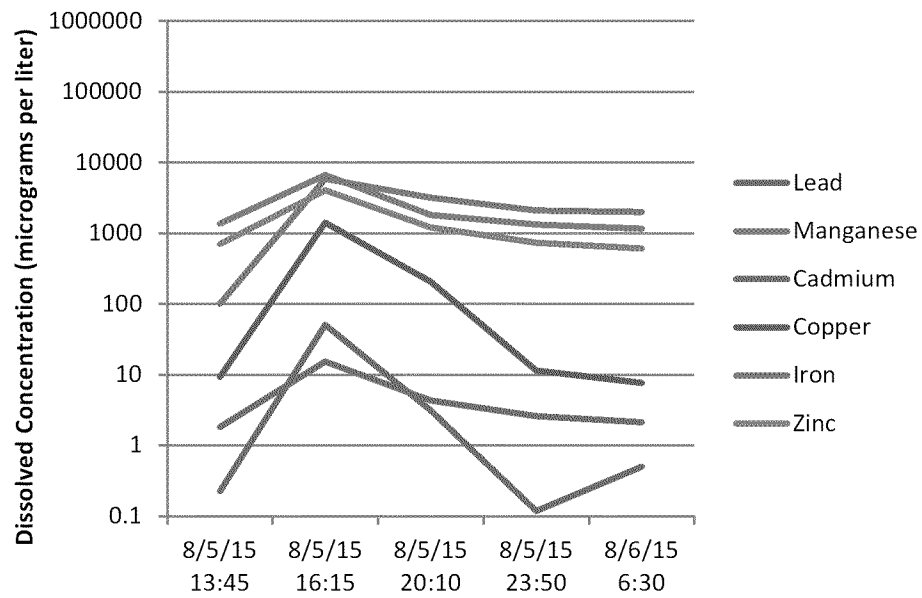
Attachment 2: Dissolved Metals Trends

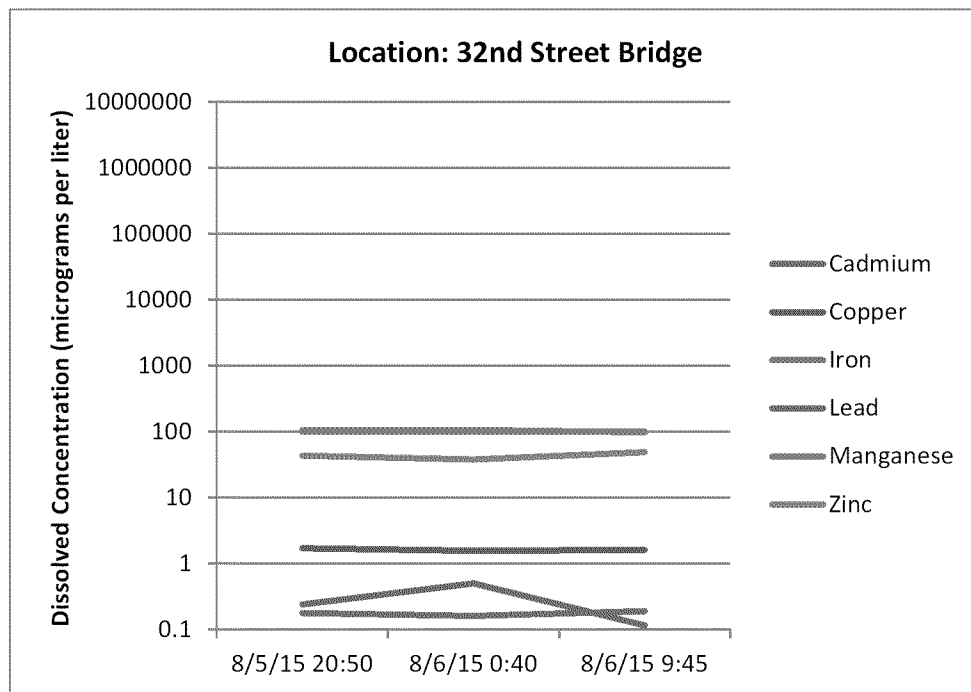
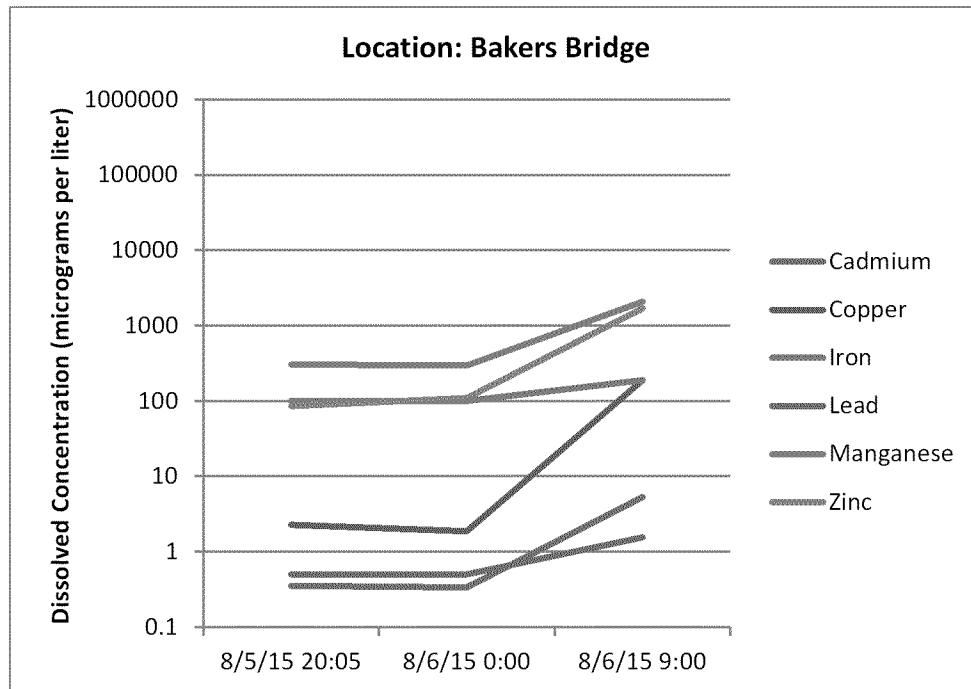


Location: Animas River above Cement Creek (A68)

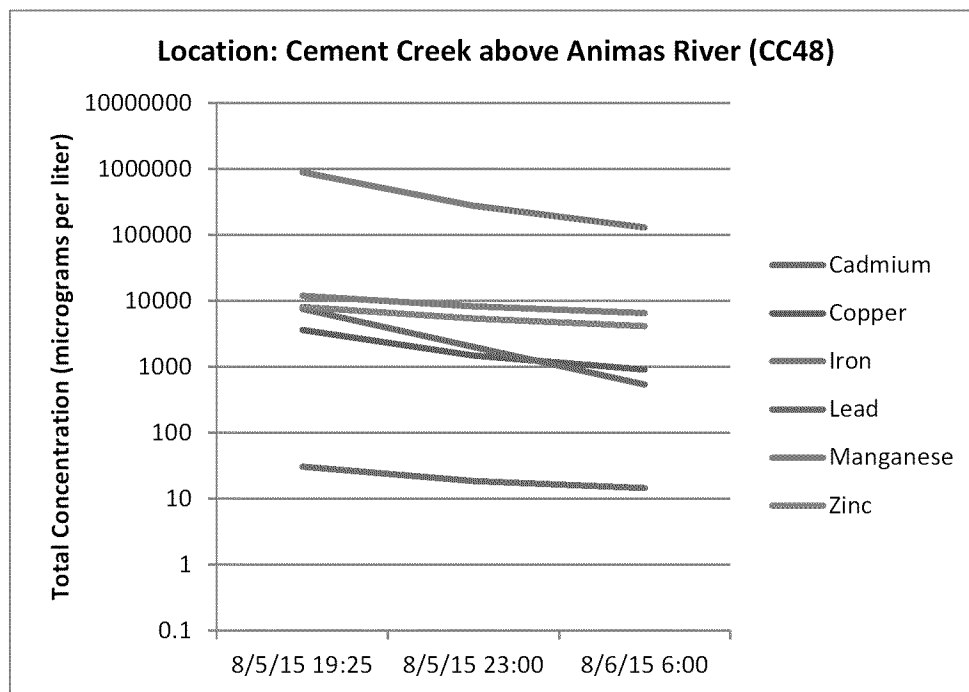
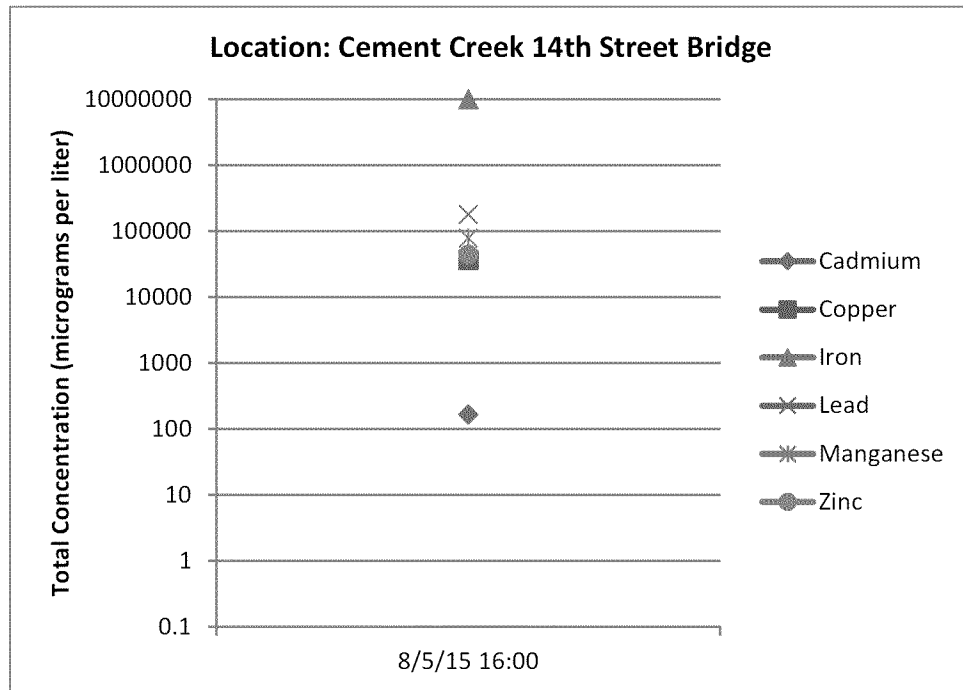


Location: Cement Creek below Silverton (A72)

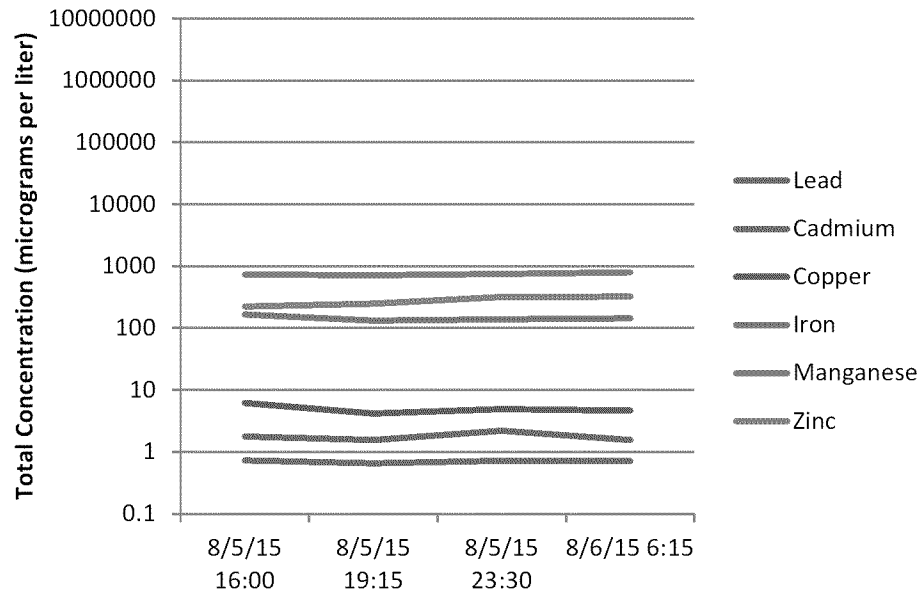




Attachment 3: Total Metals Trends



Location: Animas River above Cement Creek (A68)



Location: Animas River below Silverton (A72)

